

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method according to claim 913, wherein the annotation data includes at least one of ink marks, highlight marks, text-based note windows and audio dictations.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method according to claim 913, wherein the document is a blank document.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (previously presented): ~~The A method according to claim 12, wherein step (e) includes the substeps of: for annotating a Web-based document and viewing the annotated document, comprising the steps of:~~

(a) generating annotation data by processing first user input provided to annotation client software by a first user of the annotation client software;

(b) associating the annotation data with the document to create the annotated document, the document being displayed via a Web browser;

(c) providing the annotated document to an annotation server;

(d) with the annotation server, generating a graphic data file corresponding to a visual layout of the annotation data;

(e) when a second user of the annotation client software attempts to view the annotated document, generating the annotated document for the second user as a function of the document and the associated annotation data including

(i) enclosing the annotated document inside a fixed-sized layer of the Web browser,

(ii) examining each element of the annotated document to detect particular properties which cause the element to move relative to a predetermined corner of the annotated document during resizing of the Web browser, and

(iii) modifying the particular properties to prevent such movements;

(f) when a third user not employing the annotation client software attempts to view the annotated document, generating the annotated document and providing the annotated document to the third user as a function of the document, the graphic data and predetermined programming codes; and

(g) before step a, preventing elements of the document from moving when the document is begin being one of resized and manipulated.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the predetermined corner is a top left corner of the document.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method according to claim 9, wherein each of steps (b) and (e) includes the sub-step of utilizing at least one ActiveX control to draw ink images and text-based note windows over the document based on the annotated data.

Claim 16 (currently amended): AThe method according to claim 9, wherein the graphical data file situated on a top of the annotated document is transparent in every location of the annotated document except locations of the annotated document which include ink marks, for annotating a Web-based document and viewing the annotated document, comprising the steps of:

(a) generating annotation data by processing user input provided to annotation client software by a first user of the annotation client software;

(b) associating the annotation data with the document to create the annotated document, the document being displayed via a Web browser;

(c) providing the annotated document to an annotation server;

(d) with the annotation server, generating a graphic data file corresponding to a visual layout of the annotation data;

(e) when a second user of the annotation client software attempts to view the annotated document, generating the annotated document for the second user as a function of the document and the associated annotation data; and

(f) when a third user not employing the annotation client software attempts to view the annotated document, generating the annotated document and providing the annotated document to the third user as a function of the document, the graphic data and predetermined programming codes, and wherein step (f) further includes the substeps of:

- (i) inserting a further layer into the document to overlay each text-based note window of the annotated document,
- (ii) overlaying four identical copies of the graphical data file on top of the annotated document, and
- (iii) changing clipping rectangles of the four identical copies in response to the user input to provide a proper passage of the first-user input to the annotated document.

Claims 17-31 (canceled)